

MACKINAC COUNTY

Courthouse
100 S. Marley Street, Room 15
St. Ignace, MI 49781
Fax (906) 643-8861

MARK MacDONALD

Juvenile Officer
Referee
Court Administrator
(906) 643-7320

JUDITH L. RYERSE

Probate Register
(906) 643-7303

KATHLEEN ANNE KITTELL

Juvenile Register
Court Recorder
(906) 643-7319

STATE OF MICHIGAN**SIXTH PROBATE COURT**

THOMAS B. NORTH
PROBATE JUDGE

LUCE COUNTY

Courthouse
County Government Bldg.
407 West Harrie Street
Newberry, MI 49868

DEBORAH J. STROHL

Probate/Juvenile Register
Court Recorder
(906) 293-5601

MICHAEL M. WOLF

Juvenile Officer
Court Administrator
(906) 293-5751

October 14, 2005

Mr. Corbin Davis
Clerk
Michigan Supreme Court
Michigan Hall of Justice
P O Box 30052
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. Davis:

RE: Comments on ADM 2005-2

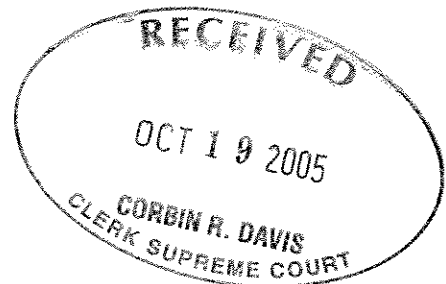
After requesting input from my staff in both Mackinac and Luce Counties, they had the following comments regarding the above administrative order:

By statute (MCL 700.2515), all wills filed for safe keeping with the Probate Court have social security numbers on the sealed envelope for identification purposes. Also, most of the wills submitted for probate have social security numbers as well, again for identification purposes. Would the administrative order require court staff to contact all testator's to replace social security numbers with driver's license or other state ID numbers? There is no requirement to advise the court of any change of address for the testator's, so this could be an overwhelming task. ADM 2005-02 may not apply to filing of wills because they are not a public record, but this needs to at least be considered.

Death certificates are made a part of many probate files, and those contain a social security number. The courts would need express authority directing them to do anything differently.

Many of the older Mackinac County records are on microfilm, the original files having been destroyed. They remain public files. We haven't the personnel, equipment or financial resources to refile those matters. The originals of the microfilm are stored out of the court's district. How are we to handle those records if ADM 2005-2 is adopted?

Although the smaller courts wouldn't have to deal with the thousands of files that a larger court does, our very limited staffs (one register in Luce, two in Mackinac) cannot take time from their daily responsibilities to do all that would be necessary to comply with the administrative order.



Mr. Corbin Davis
October 14, 2005
Page 2

In conservator petitions, if the subject receives social security benefits, MCR 5.125 requires notice to the SSA. We understand they use the social security number from the SCAO petition form for filing. Although not the court's concern, SSA will probably question what to do with the petitions they are served with if they cannot match them up without the number.

I agree also with the comments filed by the Judicial Conference

We all thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas B. North".

Thomas B. North
Probate Judge

jl
cc: Hon. M. Mack